



Jillian BalowSuperintendent of Public Instruction

Cheyenne Office

Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor 2300 Capitol Avenue Cheyenne WY 82002-0050 Phone: (307) 777-7690 Fax: (307) 777-6234



Riverton Office 320 West Main Riverton, WY 82501 Phone: (307) 857-9250 Fax: (307) 857-9256



On the Web

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2015-015

TO: School District Superintendents

Elementary School Principals

FROM: Roxann Greenlee, Nutrition Program Consultant

DATE: February 17, 2015

SUBJECT: Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Grant Applications

INFORMATION TO SHARE WITH TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLE PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATIONS

The USDA has again made the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program available to all elementary schools, with priority given to schools which have 50% or higher free and reduced lunch eligibility. Applications are being sent to food service directors and the deadline for the application is **March 27, 2015**.

For an award to be made to a school, food service staff must obtain signatures from the individual elementary school principals and from the district superintendent agreeing to support this program. There must also be cooperation on the part of the teachers to allow for classroom time to serve fresh fruits and vegetables and incorporate nutrition education into their curriculum.

The program highlights are:

- Targeting elementary schools with a 50% or higher free and reduced price lunch eligibility;
- Exposing children to fresh fruits and vegetables they might not receive at home;
- Teaching healthy snacking habits;
- Serving as a snack outside of regular meal service times;
- Providing opportunities for schools with a 49% or lower free and reduced price eligibility to receive funding;

We strongly encourage superintendents to support and encourage all of their staff to cooperate in applying for and operating this most inventive program.

For more information on this program contact Roxann Greenlee at 307-857-9269 or email at roxann.greenlee@wyo.gov.

RG:rs